

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A catalyst deterioration suppressing apparatus and method stops supply of fuel when an engine is decelerating, and prohibits the supply of fuel from being stopped when the catalyst temperature is equal to or higher than a predetermined temperature when the engine is decelerating. When the supply of fuel is prohibited from being stopped, the air-fuel ratio is prohibited from being feedback-controlled. As a result, it is possible to control the air-fuel ratio in a stable manner while suppressing deterioration of a catalyst.